

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Claude Weatherford for his many accomplishments.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of the state of Tennessee should pause to pay tribute to those exemplary citizens who have given unselfishly of themselves, their time and their talents to perpetuate the public good; and

WHEREAS, Lester Claude Weatherford is one such remarkable person who has overcome many obstacles in his life to serve as what observers say is “a living revelation of one’s ability to seek God’s will in life and to transmit the confidence of faith and complete oneness into the lives of his fellow human beings”; and

WHEREAS, born premature with many handicaps, Mr. Weatherford never succumbed to his disabilities; he realized early on that God had a plan for his life; and

WHEREAS, at the tender age of 19, Claude Weatherford felt a call to Christian service and subsequently sought to fulfill the will and purpose of Divine love by devoting his life to the ministry; and

WHEREAS, although many discouraged Claude from entering the ministry because he lacked formal education, Claude persevered and with an exceptional memory and strong voice, Claude began to memorize the New Testament and espouse God’s word to many; and

WHEREAS, a Christian man of uncompromising, stalwart devotion and deep religious conviction, Mr. Weatherford continues his ministry today, preaching to the elderly and handicapped and others in need; he also shares his testimony through poetry and song, natural talents given to him by God through which he may touch his fellow man; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Weatherford has used his poetry to also express his strong patriotic sentiments, writing about past presidents, governors, and our great state; and

WHEREAS, for his heartfelt efforts, he has been nationally recognized; Mr. Weatherford's tribute to the late John F. Kennedy was accepted into the Kennedy Library by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis; he was honored as Aide De Camp to the governor's staff in 1990 and was made an honorary member of the Senate Majority Leader's staff; his tribute to our state was recently published in East of Sunrise and is featured at the Library of Congress; and

WHEREAS, as an appropriate accolade to a truly exceptional man, the Mayor of Clarksville recently proclaimed "Claude Weatherford Day" in the city; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to recognize Lester Claude Weatherford, an eminent citizen who, in realizing God's purpose in his life, has rendered an unparalleled dimension of service to this state and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Claude Weatherford for a lifetime of noteworthy accomplishments and we recognize him as one of the finest and most dedicated citizens in our state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.